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M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

OSTERHOFF et al.

Atty. Ref.: 35-196

Continuation of Serial No. 09/041,745

Group: 1646

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: ULM, J.D.

For: EPIDIDYMIS-SPECIFIC RECEPTOR PROTEIN

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December 8, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows.

1. (Amended) An isolated mammalian epididymis-specific receptor protein which has the amino acid sequence shown [the] in SEQ ID NO: 2, or a derivative of said protein or a fragment of said protein, said derivative or fragment [thereof] having at least one biological activity and/or immunogenicity of said protein, wherein said derivative or fragment comprises at least ten contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2.

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